

State Youth Council Meeting Minutes

October 9, 2008

Department of Workforce Services

Members: Marie Christman, Parley Jacobs, Tom Darais, Robert DePoe, Jared Ferguson, (woman in black & red between Bob Gilbert & Peggy Killian), Shauna South, Melissa Freigang, Marty Kelly, Kate Alleman
DWS Staff: Jane Broadhead, Julie Anderson, Rod Barlow, Zenaida Martinez, Lesnie Foster, Ann Barnson, Bob Gilbert, Peggy Killian
Guest: Tracy Morley
Excused: Jane Lewis
Notes: Tricia Mecham

Welcome and Introductions - Marie Christman

- Introduction of new member(s)
Kate Alleman, Executive Director of United Way of South Eastern Utah, replacing Norm Johnson in Eastern Region.
Jared Ferguson of Provo School District as new Council Chair for Mountainland.
- Approval of Minutes 04/10/08
Tom Darais moved for approval of minutes. Melissa Freigang seconded the motion. Minutes approved as written.
- Budget and Outcome Reports
Jane reviewed the reports. The final budget report for 2007 was reviewed. The law states we must ensure that 30% of funds are spent on Out-of-School Youth (Utah State Youth Council elected to set 50% as the target.) Funds must also be 75% expended by end of year.

The Performance Outcome Report is a new format and dramatically different. DWS has had technical difficulties getting info needed.

Negotiations were difficult. 29% of youth served were gaining at least one basic skill.

Employer Spotlight - Tracy Morley, Volunteer Coordinator, Administrative Office, Salt Lake CAP Head Start

Tracy provided an overview of HeadStart, which is a preschool for low-income or high-risk families. It is unique and comprehensive. The program includes quality, age-appropriate activities. There is also a focus on health and nutrition, which provides screenings and immunizations as well as healthy snacks. Social services and family involvement are also key elements of the program. SLCAP serves about 2000 children. They work closely with the Salt Lake County YES program, attending job fairs, placing interns, etc. Though this partnership,

HeadStart has been able to teach and support people – sometimes former students – in gaining and modeling good workplace essential skills. Both the children and the YES program participants benefit. Educational requirements for HeadStart teachers is Bachelor's degree and additional specialized training. However staff can start as aides with high school degree or GED. Volunteers are a big piece of the program – 20% of the grant must be in-kind contributions. HeadStart is a national program. SL is one of the largest in the nation, definitely the largest in the state. Background checks are required. Those with convictions related to children are not allowed to work in the program. They also take volunteers doing court-ordered community service, but have strict guidelines regarding where they can be placed depending on the offense. Tracy can provide contact info for other areas (usually via Google). Jane raised the early childhood intervention piece, many of the students we work with are at risk. Young parents who may be involved with the YES program may also be eligible for educational benefits for their young children. **ACTION/AGENDA:** Marie will make contacts to have people involved with Early Childhood programs and intervention at the January meeting.

FERPA Project Update - Rod Barlow

There has been a major change in the way they operate. Info handout demonstrates improvements. A new pathway has been developed. Rod will provide initial numbers. Parley recommended use of the new statewide student ID thru USOE. Items related to the pilot were discussed in brief and will be follow-ed up offline.

Youth Provider Approval - Jane Broadhead

A list of proposed providers was presented. Service delivery reports are available based on monitoring. Eastern region has had changes in management, which has precluded monitoring in that area, but one is scheduled. North, as previously noted, reverted to providing services in-house rather than via external provider. All other providers/regions met the goals. Conditional approval is sought dependent on outcome of monitoring for North and Eastern regions. Melissa Freigang moved that the recommendation be taken forward. Tom Darais provided a second. Passed. Will go forward.

Regional Updates

Robert DuPoe reported that Western Region conducted six reality store events, with over 400 participants. They have begun planning for this year's events, which will begin as early as February. Additionally, youth have participated in story hour at local libraries; setting up for Nephi City Arts in the Park events; food banks; etc. Western Region is also participating in Gear Up, a program in Iron County, which allows youth to tour employer facilities in the area. Some school districts are still struggling with overcoming FERPA regulations for information sharing, while others have resolved issues and are moving ahead.

Parley Jacobs provided report on activities. In Granite School district, there were 400 students who requested exceptions for the 07/08 school year. Hopefully having them sign the info sharing release will help. Experience has shown that contact within 15 – 20 days is key. Past that, they lose the trail. Salt Lake County YES activities with HeadStart as mentioned by Tracy have also been successful. Career “fests” have also been available to students. Construction Days have

been scheduled in April. The Health Care Industry events (2nd annual) have been scheduled for February – this time they’ve got all health providers participating.

Kate Alleman reported for South Eastern Utah (SEU). They are encouraging use of FERPA release forms. They are focusing on youth without HS diplomas. Each DWS office manager is working with his/her adult education counterpart to develop partnerships. Emery and Carbon Counties are working on including technical and vocational education options to higher education/vocational pathways as early as 8th grade.

Uintah Basin Peggy Killian reported for Uintah Basin. They have a Health Career event planned in the Basin on Nov 6. This includes eight employers, hands-on workshops, and one-on-one sessions in which participants will learn to do sutures, casts, etc., and will learn about nursing, pharmacy, and respiratory therapy, among others.

Jared Ferguson reported for Mountainland. Their Leadership Project focused on improving a local Provo City park: re-painting rest rooms, planting, etc. They are also working on other projects for rural counties in region. Trying to improve quality of education and youth entering the workforce. A sub-committee of the youth council has been working on developing curriculum to help students promote themselves in the job market. This resulted in an 18-hour course available through Mountainland Applied Technology College. Referrals as appropriate were provided. They course will run again later in the year and they hope to expand through the school year. There is a lot of interest from other regions to gain access to the curriculum. Right now they are working to clear copyright issues before making it available. **ACTION/AGENDA:** Jared report in January.

Melissa Freigang reported on behalf of Northern Region. It appears to have been a smooth transition from FTT to DWS, but they weren’t able to conduct a leadership activity. One has been planned for this fall.

Youth Vision Team Update - Ronald Harrell
Moved forward to next agenda.

Public Comment
No additional comment.

Next Meeting: January 8, 2009